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### Economic Condition

*Action taken by Government to mitigate the economic distress in the Presidency.*

* 254-A *Q.*—Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased—

(*a*) to place on the table of the House summary reports of the Collectors of districts as to the economic distress prevailing from April 1930 to the present time;

(*b*) to state whether the Government have considered these reports with particular reference to the economic distress;

(*c*) if so, whether the Government have introduced or propose to introduce any measures to mitigate the distress;

(*d*) whether the Government have considered the Report of the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee and notes of members thereof;

(*e*) if so, what are the recommendations accepted by the Government;

(*f*) what are the reasons for rejecting others;

(*g*) whether the Government have taken any action in regard to the recommendations accepted by them; if so, what is the action taken so far;

(*h*) whether the situation has considerably worsened since the submission of the report;

(*i*) what is the percentage of collection of kist to the demand districtwar; and

(*j*) what is the number of coercive proceedings taken to collect the revenue last time as compared with the previous instalment?

*A.*—(*a*) The hon. Member presumably refers to the weekly season reports, which are submitted by Collectors to the Board of Revenue and by the Board to the Government. An abstract of the reports is published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* every week.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*), (*d*), (*e*) & (*g*) A committee, of which the hon. Member was a member, was appointed specially to examine the effects of the general economic depression and to report whether any measures should be adopted by the Government to mitigate them, by arranging for the co-operative marketing of certain products, or otherwise. The Government have the Committee's report under their consideration and have already issued orders on certain of the recommendations contained in it. Attention is invited to the orders contained in G.O. No. 1111 (9-S.), Revenue, dated 21st May 1931, which has been placed at the disposal of the Press, and in G.O. No. 1079, P.H., dated 12th June 1931, a copy [a] of which is attached.

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[a] Printed as Appendix IV on pages 138-139 infra.

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(*f*) The Government have so far not rejected any recommendation of the committee.

(*h*) The Government are not aware that the facts are as suggested.

(*i*) A statement[a] showing the percentage of collection of land revenue at the end of June 1931 is appended.

(*j*) The Government have not the information.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Government have any idea of mitigating the distress in the districts? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell:—" They are watching the trend of prices and will consider whether any special steps are necessary to take in consequence of the economic situation. It is not possible now to make any definite statement on the matter."

*Action taken on the recommendations of the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee.*

* 254-B *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the recommendations of the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee which have been accepted by the Government and the areas in which they have been given effect to, and how?

*A.*—The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to clauses (*c*), (*d*), (*e*), (*g*) and (*f*) of question No. 254-A.

*Prices of certain food-grains and industrial crops.*

* 255 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to lay on the table a statement containing the prices of the important staple food-grains and industrial crops which form the wealth of the bulk of the population as shown below:—

| *Food-grains*— | *Industrial crops*— |
|---|---|
| Rice and | Tobacco, |
| Ragi | Chillies and |
| | Jaggery |

for faslis 1336 to 1340?

*A.*—*Rice and ragi.*—The hon. Member is referred to the supplement to Part II of the *Fort Saint George Gazette*, in which the prices of rice and ragi for each week and month are published.

a Printed as Appendix IV on pages 138-139 infra.